## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants: Yoshinori Aoki, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2178

**Serial No.:** 09/488,511

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## STATEMENT OF COMMON OWNERSHIP TO DISQUALIFY A REFERENCE UNDER 35 USC § 103(c)

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states that both the instant application, U.S. Patent Application No. 09/488,511 and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/081,449, which matured into U.S. patent 6,161,112 to Cragun et al., were, at the time the invention of the instant application was made, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to International Business Machines Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

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